

BLESSED BE (the sermon in the square)

blessed be newsboys
for they shall inherit my dimes
after i have food to eat
and have seen a movie
and have pocketed enough
for busfare
to my apartment.
blessed be policemen
for they turn the other way
when i piss on streets
after much drinking.
blessed be the bloodbank
for accepting my blood
and giving me four dollars
in return for one pint.
blessed be norman
for sweeping the roaches
from his penthouse floor.
blessed be the city
for the christmas tree in the square --
blessed be the nuns for singing
to the poor winos.
blessed be the people
for they shall soon dwell
in a land of worms.
blessed be young men and women
for they shall inherit the worst.
blessed be our father
who has showered us
with candy and candy-wrappers.
and blessed be newsboys
for they shall sell newspapers
in heaven.

-- neeli cherry

South Pasadena, California

C & O freight

bearing down on my
consciousness, whining
past, winding thru
a Michigan forest,
vanishing into a stand
of jackpine.